



SASAKAWA USA
Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA

Stanford

APARC
Walter H. Shorenstein
Asia-Pacific
Research Center

News Release

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Event: Addressing supply constraints on rare metals critical to high-tech industries

Trade decisions under Trump administration could further impact supply of rare-metal resources, already produced in limited amounts and unreliable countries

STANFORD, Ca. — Will demand for iPhones and Teslas outpace our ability to secure the critical materials required to build them? Advanced economies like the U.S. and Japan are approaching this point, with their economic futures becoming ever more dependent on rare metals whose production is often dominated by one mine or one country. These challenges could intensify if China, which controls most of the supply, is threatened by trade decisions under the incoming Trump administration.

Please join Sasakawa USA and the Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Center at Stanford University on November 30 as we examine these issues while laying out the challenges, opportunities, and limitations of creating resilient supplies of rare metals.

[Click here to RSVP](#)

“Securing Critical Resources in a New Green and Industrial Era” is a full-day conference that will include expert panels on specific aspects of bringing rare metals from production to product. This will be the first conference to bring together companies from the entire rare metal supply chain, including experts and officials from both Japan and the United States, countries that both rely on the entire spectrum of these resources for manufacturing in devices that range from smartphones and laptops to MRIs, aircraft engines, and electric vehicle batteries.

While the world is not running out of rare metals, developing resilient supply lines can take a decade or more, meaning companies may run short of the materials they need. This already serious situation could be further complicated if President-elect Donald Trump pushes trade sanctions against China. China has shown a willingness to withhold these hidden ingredients critical to high-tech companies — potentially threatening businesses from Apple to Raytheon — as they did with Japan in 2010.

Panels will address a complex range of issues including demand for battery material and China’s growing role in rare metal production. Conference participants aim to identify ways in which companies and officials in the U.S. and Japan, two of the world’s top consumers of rare metals, can identify solutions to these difficult challenges.

Come join a select number of experts for this free event and lunch. This meaningful discussion will help attendees understand the often-misunderstood topic of resource insecurity that is critical for tech and green businesses so they can recognize the associated economic, geopolitical, and environmental risks.

View the full agenda and RSVP [here](#). Space is limited and offered on a first-come, first-served basis. More details below.



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Please note: Panelists and speakers may be available for interviews. Sasakawa USA will do its best to accommodate interview requests based on each speaker's availability. Please send requests to Communications Manager Christa Desrets at cdesrets@spfusa.org.

Event information:

Securing Critical Resources in a New Green and Industrial Era

Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 9 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Stanford University, 616 Serra St. E301, Stanford, CA 94305

Lunch provided

Event will be livestreamed — Details to be announced.

Panel Topics:

9:00 a.m. | Welcome

9:10 a.m. | Scene Setter: Key Issues in Critical Resources

9:30 a.m. | Panel 1: Identifying Resource Insecurity: The unique supply line challenges of rare metals

10:45 a.m. | Panel 2: The Rare Metal Age: Industrial developments and the rush for new metal

11:45 a.m. | Video message: Setting the Government Agenda for Ensuring Critical Resources

12:00 p.m. | Lunch

12:30 p.m. | Keynote Address: Rare Metals in Defense and National Security

1:15 p.m. | Panel 3: Identifying material concerns and solutions to enhance resiliency in supply lines

2:30 p.m. | Panel 4: Strategies for a New Industrial Age: Substitution, Recycling and a Circular Economy

3:30 p.m. | Summary and Way Forward

Speakers:

- **Admiral Dennis C. Blair** (USN, ret.), Chairman and CEO, Sasakawa USA
- **David Abraham**, Author, *The Elements of Power*
- **Saleem Ali**, Professor of Sustainable Resources, University of Queensland
- **Geoff Bedford**, CEO, Neo Performance Materials, former CEO, Molycorp
- **Daniel Bob**, Senior Fellow, Sasakawa USA
- **Steve Conlin**, President, ICD Alloys and Metals
- **Dr. Richard Dasher**, Director, U.S.-Asia Technology Management Center, Stanford University
- **Luke Erceg**, Executive Chairman, DryLet
- **Dr. Thomas Graedel**, Professor Emeritus of Industrial Ecology, Yale University
- **Takeo Hoshi**, Director, Japan Program, Shorenstein, Asia-Pacific Research Center (APARC)
- **Nick Kotaki**, Managing Director, Material Trading Co.
- **Elert Loois**, Managing Partner, HTM Advisory
- **Simon Moores**, CEO, Benchmark Intelligence
- **Senator Lisa Murkowski**, Chairman, Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee
- **Toru Okabe**, Professor of Rare Metals, The University of Tokyo Institute of Industrial Science
- **Reinhold Schindler**, Director, Magnets and Rare Earths, Siemens
- **Michael Silver**, CEO, American Elements
- **Daniel Sneider**, Associate Director, Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center
- **Martin Steurner**, Economist, Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas
- **Yutaka Tai**, Director of Material and Nanotechnology, New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO)
- **John Thompson**, Professor of Environment, Cornell University
- **Yuuko Yasunaga**, Director of Natural Resources, Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI)



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About Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA

Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA is an independent American non-profit, non-partisan institution devoted to research, analysis, and better understanding of the U.S.-Japan relationship. Through research and education programs, Sasakawa USA facilitates people-to-people exchange and dialogue between American and Japanese policymakers, influential citizens, and the broader public.

About Shorenstein APARC

The Walter H. Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center (Shorenstein APARC) is a unique Stanford University institution focused on the interdisciplinary study of contemporary Asia. Shorenstein APARC's mission is to produce and publish outstanding interdisciplinary, Asia-Pacific-focused research; educate students, scholars, and corporate and governmental affiliates; promote constructive interaction to influence U.S. policy toward the Asia-Pacific; and guide Asian nations on key issues of societal transition, development, U.S.-Asia relations, and regional cooperation.